

**TOWN OF CHESTER SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moderator Dakin explained that there would be no action taken tonight and read the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

**ARTICLE 1**

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of constructing a water storage tank and appurtenant water mains, including the purchase of land located on Route 103 South as a site for said storage tank, the estimated cost of such improvements being Four Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$4,050,000)?

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 28, 2015 at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Chester duly called, noticed and held on August 19, 2015. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Chester on August 20, 2015.

Moderator Dakin then turned the meeting over to Town Manager, David Pisha. Mr. Pisha and Naomi Johnson, from Dufresne Group, presented a power point presentation explaining the project. (copy attached)

Joe Brent asked what the State would do if the Town did not fix deficiencies in the water system by December, 2017. David Pisha replied they could refuse to give the Town a permit. Joe Brent also asked about a section of 8 inch pipe that was not being replaced by the High School. Naomi Johnson explained that section of pipe was replaced about 9 – 10 years ago. Michael Anderson asked if the 8 inch pipe would hold up with the 12 inch pipe. Naomi Johnson replied yes.

Paul Dexter asked why the Selectboard did not have an assessment done on the land. David Pisha replied that the Selectboard decided not to spend the money to have an assessment done on the land. Heather Chase advised that it would have been difficult to get an assessment done within the time period the Board was working with. Arne Jonynas advised that this project is saving us \$700,000 to

\$800,000 dollars. The price for the land was negotiated to the best possible price and there are other options for the land in the future.

Jeff Holden explained that this is the best site location, with the least amount of cost, for the water project.

Michael Anderson asked if the \$4,050,000 would be the total cost of the project. David Pisha explained that the \$4,050,000 was the maximum. Naomi Johnson explained that there was a contingency and there is an additional 12 months warranty after the project is finished. Ms. Johnson also explained that two years after the final completion is when the Town would start paying for the project.

Joe Brent asked if the existing tank was a 1 million gallon tank and the new tank would be 330,000 gallon tank and if the new tank would be sufficient. Jeff Holden answered yes, the 330,000 gallon tank would be sufficient.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

A true copy.

Deborah J. Aldrich  
Town Clerk

John DeBenedetti  
Select Board Chairman

William E. Dakin, Jr.  
Moderator

Results of Water Bond Vote September 29, 2015: Yes = 280  
No = 121

Total Votes Cast = 401